

# Federal Update



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United States Department of Education  
2019 NMASFAA Conference

**Federal Student Aid**  
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April 24-26, 2019

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# Please register for each FSA presentation

<https://cvent.me/ZRVxw>



# New Mexico Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators Conference

## Federal Student Aid Training Sessions

Enter your information below to sign up for the federal training sessions. Attendees will be emailed a training evaluation survey shortly after the event. All emails will come from FSA\_Internet\_Registration@ed.gov.

\* First Name

\* Last Name

\* Email Address

Email Address is required.

School Name

Please select which sessions you plan to attend

- Federal Update
- R2T4 in Modules
- Year Round Pell
- SAP

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# Negotiated Rulemaking

<https://cvent.me/ZRVxw>

# Accreditation Innovation and Other Issues

- On July 31, 2018, the Department announced its intent to establish a negotiated rulemaking committee
- The Committee began work in January to develop proposed regulations on Accreditation Innovation and other related issues

<https://cvent.me/ZRVxw>

# Accreditation Innovation and Other Issues

- The Accreditation and Innovation Negotiated Rulemaking Committee will address the Secretary's recognition of accrediting agencies and related eligibility issues, including:
  - Requirements for accrediting agencies in their oversight of member institutions and programs
  - Criteria used by the Secretary to recognize accrediting agencies

<https://cvent.me/ZRVxw>

# Accreditation Innovation and Other Issues

- Simplification of the Department's recognition and review of accrediting agencies
- Clarification of the core oversight responsibilities of each entity in the regulatory triad, including accrediting agencies, States, and the Department to hold institutions accountable
- Clarification of the permissible arrangements between an institution of higher education and another organization to provide a portion of an education program
- The roles and responsibilities of institutions and accrediting agencies in the teach-out process

<https://cvent.me/ZRVxw>

# Accreditation Innovation and Other Issues

- The Department also announced an intent to establish three subcommittees that would make recommendations to the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee on:
  - Distance Learning and Innovation
  - Eligibility of faith-based entities and activities
  - TEACH Grants

# Borrower Defense to Repayment (BDTR)

- On Nov. 1, 2016, the Department published final regulations that were scheduled to take effect on July 1, 2017
- The final regulations:
  - Created a new Federal standard for BDTR
  - Prohibited mandatory arbitration clauses
  - Required loan repayment warnings under some circumstances
  - Provided for automatic closed school discharges
  - Updated false certification discharge regulations

# Borrower Defense to Repayment

- In 2017, The Department formed a Negotiated Rulemaking Committee to negotiate the following issues:
  - Federal Standard for BDTR
  - BDTR Process
  - Limited Aspects of Financial Responsibility and Administrative Capability
  - Pre-dispute Arbitration Agreements, Class Action Waivers, and Internal Dispute Processes
  - Closed School Discharges
  - False Certification Discharges
  - Guaranty Agency Collection Fees
  - Subsidized Usage Period Recalculation

# Borrower Defense to Repayment

- A Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) was published July 31, 2018
  - The Department received nearly 32,000 comments in response
- The Department continues work on these regulations

# Borrower Defense to Repayment

- The Department published Federal Register notices to delay the effective date of the 2016 regulations
- In October 2018, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia invalidated the delay and the 2016 Borrower Defense regulations became effective

# Gainful Employment

- A negotiated rulemaking committee was formed to consider the Gainful Employment rules
- The committee met:
  - Dec. 4-7, 2017,
  - Feb. 5-8, 2018, and
  - March 12-15, 2018
- Negotiations concluded without consensus being reached

# Gainful Employment

- A Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) was published Aug. 14, 2018
  - The comment period ended on Sept. 13, 2018
  - The Department received nearly 14,000 comments
- A final regulation is under development

# Gainful Employment Disclosure

- Resources for 2018 GE Disclosure:

Office of Postsecondary Education  
(OPE) website

[Gainful Employment Disclosure  
Template](#)

- GE Disclosure Template
- GE Disclosure Template Quick Start Guide

- Resources for 2019 GE Disclosure:
  - Coming soon!

The screenshot shows the homepage of the 'Gainful Employment Program Disclosure Template'. At the top, there's a dark header bar with the title 'Gainful Employment Program Disclosure Template' in white, and a 'HELP' button with a speech bubble icon. Below the header, a sub-header says 'For Help Call 855-359-3697 gedt@novas.net'. The main content area has a light gray background. On the left, there's a vertical sidebar with categories: 'Institution OPE ID', 'Program information', 'Cost', 'Completion', 'Debt', 'Performance', 'Job Placement', 'Licensure Requirements', and 'Context'. To the right of each category, there's a brief description and/or a bulleted list of requirements. For example, 'Cost' says 'Enter the information requested for each program at your institution subject to the gainful employment regulations. Generally, gainful employment programs include:' followed by two bullet points about public and private institutions.

Institution OPE ID

Program information

Cost

Completion

Debt

Performance

Job Placement

Licensure Requirements

Context

The 2018 template is to be used to meet the gainful employment disclosure requirements as required by the regulations at 34 CFR 663.412(a).

Enter the information requested for each program at your institution subject to the gainful employment regulations. Generally, gainful employment programs include:

- ➔ At public and private not-for-profit institutions:  
Title IV-eligible non-degree programs (e.g., certificate and diploma programs).
- ➔ At for-profit institutions:  
All Title IV-eligible instructional programs, degree and non-degree.

Enter the institution's 6-digit Department of Education assigned OPE ID:

# Gainful Employment

- GE Reporting for the 2017-2018 award year was due Oct. 1, 2018 in the same format as last year
- For assistance with reporting, contact the NSLDS Customer Support Center at 1-800-999-8219 or [nsls@ed.gov](mailto:nsls@ed.gov)

# Statutory Updates

# Minibus Appropriations Bill

- On Sept. 28, 2018 the President signed the Department of Defense and Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act, 2019 (H.R. 6157; Public Law No: 115-245) which impacted Federal student aid in several ways:
  - Increased Maximum Pell Grant awards
  - Level funding for FWS/FSEOG awards
  - Deferment for Cancer Treatment
  - FAFSA® Data Usage
  - Temporary Extended Public Service Loan Forgiveness (TEPSLF)
  - Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Outreach

# 2019-2020 Maximum Pell Grant awards

- Maximum Scheduled Award: \$6,195
  - Increase of \$100 for 2019-2020
  - Able to receive up to 150% of scheduled Pell award
- Minimum Award - \$650
- Maximum eligible EFC – 5576

## *Pell Payment and Disbursement Schedules*

- *DCL GEN-19-01 (Jan. 23, 2019)*

# No Change to FWS/FSEOG levels

- Campus-based appropriations have provided (with no changes from the previous award year):
  - \$1,130,000,000 for the FWS Program
  - \$840,000,000 for the FSEOG Program

# FAFSA Data Usage

- The law permits, but does not require, schools to provide FAFSA data to a scholarship granting organization, or *to an organization that assists the applicant in applying for and receiving Federal, State, local or tribal assistance* if:
  - The applicant has provided explicit written consent, and
  - The disclosure is to assist the applicant in applying for and receiving financial assistance at that school
- The organization cannot sell or otherwise share the FAFSA data they receive from schools under this section
- This provision will remain in effect until the HEA is reauthorized

# Children of Fallen Heroes Scholarship

- On March 23, 2018 the President signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018, (H.R. 1625, Public Law 115-141)
- Amends Sec. 473(b) of HEA and expands special rule for “EFC shall be deemed zero”
- Student must be eligible to receive Pell Grant for the year in which eligibility determination is made beginning with 2018-2019 award year ( $EFC > 0$  and  $\leq$  the maximum EFC for Pell Grant)
- Parent or guardian actively serving as a public safety officer and died in the line of duty while performing as a public safety officer

# Children of Fallen Heroes Scholarship

- School's responsibility
  - Determine and document, working with the student, that the student met eligibility requirements
  - Documentation requirements are not prescribed but may include
    - Determination letter for certain federal benefits under DOJ's Public Safety Officers Benefit Program
    - Written attestation made by a state or local government official with authority over the individual who died in the line of duty
    - See 11/19/2018 EA for more examples
  - Submit eligibility determination to FSA through the COD System in awards 2018-19 and 2019-20
    - *Eligibility determination validation will move to FAA Access beginning in the 2020-2021 award year*

# Children of Fallen Heroes Scholarship

- System Information
  - CPS will not recalculate an eligible student's EFC when the student's eligibility is determined by the school
  - Only the COD Website updated to include new Children of Fallen Heroes (CFH) indicator
    - The CFH Indicator cannot be submitted via batch, and will not be on common record responses
  - If CFH indicator is marked “yes” the COD system will calculate the student’s Pell Grant eligibility as if the EFC were zero, regardless of the Pell-eligible EFC
  - If CFH indicator is marked “no” or left blank, COD will process the Pell award according to the EFC of record
  - See NSLDS Newsletter #62 (January 2019) for information about how NSLDS will record information about a student benefitting from the CFH Scholarship Act

# Verification

# Electronic Announcement: January 9, 2019

- Signed copies of paper tax returns may now be accepted in lieu of documents issued by the IRS
  - Schools may still opt to require IRS documentation
  - Signature requirements for tax preparers continue to apply
- IRS verification of non-filing (VNF) is still required for non-filing parents, independent students and spouses, but a signed statement may be provided if the VNF cannot be obtained
  - Applicants are not required to document their attempt to obtain IRS documents, unless the school doubts the attempt was made

# Tax Filing Extenders: Documentation

- A signed statement certifying that the individual:
  - Attempted to obtain non-filing verification from the IRS or other tax authorities and was unable to; *and*
  - Has not filed a Federal income tax return
- A list of the sources of any income, and the amount of income from each
  - If self-employed, the signed statement must also include the AGI and the amount of U.S. income tax paid

# Tax Filing Extenders: Other Documents

- Copy of IRS Form 4868, “Application for Automatic Extension of Time to File U.S. Individual Income Tax Return”
- Copy of the IRS’s approval of an extension beyond the automatic six-month period
- Copy of IRS Form W–2 for each source of employment income received or an equivalent document

# Amended Tax Returns

- Individuals who filed an amended tax return must submit the following documents to the institution:
  - If identified by IRS Request Flag 07, all original income and tax information is considered verified
  - If not identified by IRS Request Flag 07, an IRS Tax Return Transcript, or any other IRS tax transcript(s) that include all of the income and tax information required, or a *signed copy of the original tax return*;
- AND
- a signed copy of IRS Form 1040X that was filed with the IRS
- If the amendment was not due to filing a 1040X, the applicant must provide IRS documentation of the change

# Identity Theft

- Victims of IRS tax-related identity theft must submit:
    - Statement signed and dated by the tax filer indicating s/he was a victim of IRS tax-related identity theft and the IRS has been made aware;
- AND*
- An IRS Tax Return Database View (TRDBV) transcript
    - Tax filers who cannot obtain a TRDBV transcript may instead submit other official IRS document(s) if they include all income and tax information required to be verified, *or a signed copy of the tax return*

# 2018-2019 Verification: References

- [GEN-17-05](#): 2018-2019 Verification (5/5/17 Federal Register)
  - No changes to verification tracking groups
- [August 16, 2017 Electronic Announcement](#): 2018-19 Verification Suggested Text
- Updates:
  - Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Data Retrieval Tool (DRT) is available again (masking process)
  - Dependent students who are nontax filers **do not** have to provide confirmation of nonfiling status from the IRS or other relevant tax authority
    - Other parties do (parents, independent students, etc.)

# 2019-2020 Verification: References

- [GEN-18-03](#) - 2019-20 Verification (3/28/18 Federal Register)
  - No changes to verification tracking groups or FAFSA verification items from 2018-2019
  - No changes to the acceptable documentation requirements from 2018-2019
- [June 8, 2018 Electronic Announcement](#) - 2019-20 Verification Suggested Text
- [July 30, 2018 Electronic Announcement](#) - EDE Technical Reference for the 2019-20 ISIR record layout, including Verification Tracking Flags

# Changes to IRS Tax Transcript

## New IRS Tax Transcripts Redacted Data

- Effective 9/23/18, IRS tax transcripts display a reduced number of digits/characters for SSN, EIN, account/phone #, last name, address
- *The revised IRS tax transcript is acceptable for verification purposes*
- At the end of 2018 transcripts will no longer be faxed
- Filers currently can create “customer file numbers” when requesting transcripts via 4506T/T-EZ
  - Available next year for Get Transcripts Online or Online by Mail

# Changes to IRS Tax Transcript

## New IRS Tax Transcripts Redacted Data

- Spring of 2019, IRS plans to remove option for requesting 3rd-party receipt of tax data on 4506-T/T-EZ and only mail transcripts to taxpayer
  - Schools can receive transcripts directly by participating in IRS's Income Verification Express Services [IVES] by registering for e-Services on IRS.gov

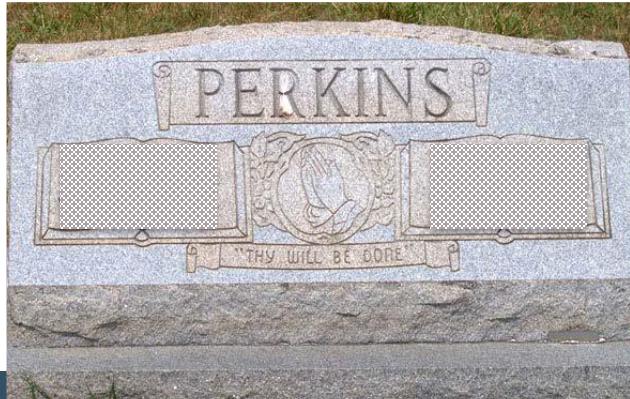
# Changes to Other IRS Tax Forms

- The recently passed tax reform law changes other IRS tax forms (e.g. *Form 1040*)
- The IRS released drafts of new tax forms in August 2018
- One major change is the elimination of tax forms 1040A and 1040EZ, and the creation of 6 new schedules
- FSA is reviewing these 2018 tax form changes to see how these changes effect 2020-2021 forms and processes

# Perkins Loans

# Perkins Loans

- Perkins Loan Program authority has expired;  
*no more loans or disbursements can be awarded*
  - [Dear Colleague Letter \(DCL\) GEN-17-10](#), published on Oct. 6, 2017
  - [Dear Colleague Letter \(DCL\) GEN-16-05](#), published on Feb. 17, 2016



# Perkins Portfolio

- Schools NOT required to liquidate Perkins Loan portfolios
- Schools may...
  - Continue to service their own portfolios
  - Contract with a third-party servicer for servicing
  - Choose to service some/assign some Perkins Loans (defaulted loans, older portfolio, low balances)
  - Liquidate (assign all loans to the Department)

EA on [Perkins Loan Program Administrative Responsibilities and Reporting Requirements](#), published on Oct. 4, 2018

# NSLDS Reporting

- National Student Loan Database System (NSLDS®)
  - The ONLY system that contains Perkins loan-level data
  - Data is self-reported by school or third-party servicer
  - School's responsibility to report accurate and timely data §674.16
  - Loans should be properly reported and updated at least monthly
  - Request a reconciliation report (REC005) at least quarterly to ensure school's records are consistent with NSLDS, reconcile any discrepancies, and update NSLDS accordingly

For more information, review EA on  
[Perkins Loan Administrative Responsibilities and Reporting Requirements](#)  
published Oct. 4, 2018

# Distribution of Assets

- Section 466(a) of the HEA requires a capital distribution of the balance of the institution's Perkins Loan Fund (Distribution of Assets)
  - An Institution is required to:
    1. Return to the Department the **Federal** share of the Perkins Loan Fund through the G5 system
    2. Return to the institution the **institutional** share of the Perkins Loan Fund through the institution's own accounting processes

# Distribution of Assets

- Annual collection of Federal share after FISAP filed each year
- Currently, the Department plan to begin collecting the Federal share of an institution's Perkins Fund and the return of the institutional share to the school *has been delayed*
  - Please do NOT return any federal share or take out any institutional share *until* the Department formally notifies the school of this process (through COD)

[Distribution of Assets EA](#), July 11, 2018, outlined the process

# NSLDS Updates

# New Enrollment Reporting Guide (November 2018)

- See Electronic Announcement November 14, 2018

# Aid Overpayment Compliance Report

- Released in November 2018
- To assist schools in their effort to identify aid overpayments which need to be assigned to ED or updated on NSLDS
- The report can be requested with the following outputs:
  - Ad-hoc report from the Web Report List Page on NSLDS
  - Scheduled report with a monthly or quarterly distribution via SAIG:
    - Fixed-width (Message Class AOCOFWOP)
    - Comma separated values (CSV) (Message Class AOCOCDOP)

<b>ID:</b> <u>OVPCL1</u>	<b>Type:</b> Extract
<b>Name:</b> AID OVERPAYMENT COMPLIANCE REPORT	

## AID OVERPAYMENT COMPLIANCE REPORT Profile Update

SAIG MAILBOX:	<input type="text"/>
FREQUENCY:	QUARTERLY <input type="button" value="▼"/>
SCHOOL BRANCH:	ALL <input type="button" value="▼"/>
EXTRACT TYPE:	FIXED WIDTH <input type="button" value="▼"/>

# Changes to Enrollment Update

- Just Implemented!
- New search options will be available on the Enrollment Update page:
  - Credential Level
  - Special Program Indicator (SPI)
  - Published Program Length (PPL)
  - Classification of Institutional Programs (CIP) Code

# Supplemental Enrollment Reporting File

- Just Implemented!
- New Supplemental Enrollment Reporting File will allow schools the option to send enrollment data to NSLDS outside of their roster schedule. Schools will be able to provide more timely data updates to NSLDS
  - The new supplemental file will not return an Error/Acknowledgment File
  - Schools will be able to confirm receipt of the Supplemental Enrollment Reporting File on the Enrollment Submittal Tracking page of the NSLDSFAP website
- The new supplemental file does not replace existing enrollment rosters or reporting requirements

# Historical Corrections to Enrollment Reporting

- Just Implemented!
- Schools will be able to easily correct campus- and program-level enrollment history for a student
- Historical Corrections will be available via:
  - Online:
    - Users will be able to correct an individual student easily online
  - Spreadsheet Submittal:
    - Users will be able to correct all history for the student
  - Batch (SAIG) Submittal:
    - Users will be able to correct all history for the student

# COD Updates

# Release 17.2 Children of Fallen Heroes (December 2018)

- Children of Fallen Heroes (CFH) Scholarship Act
  - Eligibility certified by the financial aid administrator on COD Web by marking the CFH Indicator = “true” for Pell-eligible students that qualify
  - Will allow awarding the maximum Pell Grant Scheduled Award based on Cost of Attendance
  - CFH Indicator “tag” will not be returned in responses, but new *Warning Edit 224* will be
    - Message- “Pell award submitted with CFH Indicator = true”

# COD Update – 17.2 Children of Fallen Heroes

The Create Award or Update Award screens are the most common areas where you will set the CFH indicator on the COD Web.

The fields marked with an asterisk (\*) are required.

**Common Record Information**

Batch ID	2018-09-13T12:46:44.0396699760
*Attending Entity ID	Entity ID Type: COD Entity ID: 98899760

**Student**

Student Name	WM C LANG
SSN	
Date of Birth	

**Award Information**

*Type	PELL
*Award Year	'18-'19
*Award Amount	\$9,142.50
*CPS Transaction Number	02
*Enrollment Date	August 15 2018
*Cost of Attendance	\$32,750.00
*Verification Status	V
*Incarcerated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Additional Eligibility Indicator	<input type="checkbox"/>
CFH Indicator	Yes
*Student Eligibility Code	06 - High School Diploma
School Use Only	

**Buttons:** VIEW PERSON DATA, VIEW DISBURSEMENT DATA, CANCEL, COMMON RECORD, SUBMIT

**Page Footer:** Sep 13 2018 12:55 EDT | Home | Privacy Act | Links | Contact Us | Campus-Based Resources | COD Resources | Help | Glossary | Log Off

# COD Update – 17.2 Children of Fallen Heroes

The Award Detail Information screen displays the Pell record detail, including the higher Scheduled Award reflecting the zero Expected Family Contribution (EFC), and the CFH Indicator.

The screenshot shows the U.S. Department of Education's Common Origination & Disbursement (COD) system. The top navigation bar includes links for Person, School, Batch, Award (which is highlighted in orange), Services, User, Program, Support, and Admin. On the left, there are links for Award Search, Award Information Detail Disbursements, Award Link, and Award Unlink/Relink. The main content area is titled "Award Detail Information" and shows a record for WM C LANG at THE LONG ISLAND BARBER INSTITUTE, INC. The record includes the following fields:

Award Information	
Award Amount Approved	\$9,142.50
Scheduled Award Amount	\$6,095.00
Award Amount Disbursed	\$3,047.50
CPS Transaction Number	02
Enrollment Date	08/15/2018
Cost of Attendance	\$32,750.00
EFC	4397
Secondary EFC	0
Pell CPS Highest Application Process Date	06/01/2018
Pell CPS Highest Transaction Number	2
Selected for Verification by CPS	Yes
Verification Status Code	V
Incarcerated	
Additional Eligibility Indicator	Yes
CFH Indicator	Yes
Collection Status Indicator	
Collection Referral Amount	\$0.00
Collection Amount Collected	\$0.00
Eligibility Used	50.0000%
Student Eligibility Code	06 - High School Diploma
School Use Only	

At the bottom of the page, there is a "UPDATE AWARD" button. The footer contains links to Home, Privacy Act, Links, Contact Us, Campus-Based Resources, COD Resources, Help, Glossary, and Log Off, along with the date Sep 13 2018 14:12 EDT.

# COD Update – Release 18.0

- COD System updated in early April, 2019
  - New Award Year Set-up for 2019-20
  - No new schema
  - CFH Indicator added to 2018-19 Pell POP, 2019-20 Pell MRR, Pell Reconciliation, and Pell Grant Year-to-Date files
  - StudentLoans.gov Process Demonstrations
  - *Return of Title IV (R2T4) migrating to COD*
  - Fiscal Operations Report and Application to Participate (FISAP) Validation Edits

# COD Update –18.0 R2T4 on COD

- R2T4 electronic calculation tool has moved to COD
  - Core-functionality and calculations will not change
  - Calculations and previous information will not transfer to COD
  - Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant included in tool calculation

# COD Update –18.0 R2T4 on COD

## Available on:

- <https://cod.ed.gov>
- New sidebar - “Tools”
- R2T4 Home Page will be located under “Tools” drop-down
- New “Look and Feel” for R2T4 Home Page

The screenshot shows the Federal Student Aid (FSA) website interface. At the top, it displays "FederalStudentAid" and "Common Origination & Disbursement". On the right, there are user details "John Smith (School User)" and "Logout", and a message "Selected School: Johns Hopkins University". A sidebar on the left contains links for "Person", "School", "Batch", "Award", "Services", and "Tools". Under "Tools", the "R2T4" option is selected, showing a dropdown menu with "R2T4 Information", "School Calendar Profiles", "Institutional Charges Profiles", "R2T4 Calculator", "Student Record Management", and "Reports". Below this is another "R2T4 Training" dropdown with "IFAP Library - Return of Title IV Aid Worksheets". Further down the sidebar are "User" and "Support" links. The main content area is titled "R2T4" and "Welcome to Return to Title IV (R2T4)". It includes a brief description of the tool's purpose: "The Return of Title IV Funds (R2T4) on COD Web helps you calculate, save, and manage records for the treatment of aid when a student withdraws." A "More Information" link is provided. Below this is a section titled "General Information" with three expandable items: "Student's Program Information", "Student's Withdrawal Information", and "Student's Title IV Aid Information". There is also a "Resources" section with a link to the "IFAP Library". At the bottom, there is a "Contact Customer Support" section with information about "R2T4 Customer Support" including a phone number (1-800-330-5947), operating hours (Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.), and an email address.

# COD Update –18.0 R2T4 on COD

- R2T4 Access
  - COD School-User(s) 1 and 2 will have view-only access to the R2T4 module
  - COD School-User(s) 3 - 6 will have access to create profiles and calculate R2T4 records
  - Main school and additional locations will have access to view R2T4 calculations, institutional, and calendar profiles

# Protecting Student Information



# FSA Cybersecurity Compliance

Search:

GO

[Advanced Search](#)

## My IFAP

[System & Processing Links - Application](#)

[System & Processing Links - Programs](#)

[System & Processing Links - Transmission](#)

[Participation Links - Application](#)

[Participation Links - Audits](#)

[Participation Links - Programs](#)

[Funding Links](#)

[Resource Links](#)

[Financial Partners Links](#)

[Federal Loan Servicer Links](#)

[Student & Parent Links - Application](#)

[Student & Parent Links - Programs](#)

## Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP)



The Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP) website consolidates guidance, resources, and information related to the administration and processing of Title IV federal student aid into one online site for use by the entire financial aid community.

The most recent postings to the site are listed in the [What's New](#) section.

### Tools for Schools

Click on this box to access online and computer-based training resources.

### Worksheets, Schedules, & Tables

Click on this box to access worksheet, schedule, and table resources.

### Publications

Click on this box to access program-related and processing-related publications.

### Processing Resources

Click on this box to access program and system processing information and materials.

### What's New

RSS

Below is an abbreviated list of the most recent postings to the IFAP website. Click [here](#) or on the "What's New" link in the top menu bar to view all recent ..

## Hot Topics

- [Information Regarding Supporting ITT Students](#)
- [Program Integrity Information - Questions and Answers](#)
- [Federal Student Aid Data Center](#)
- [Disaster Assistance](#)

## Information Pages

- [FAFSA and the IRS DRT](#)
- [Gainful Employment](#)
- [150% Direct Subsidized Loan Limit](#)
- [Campus-Based Programs](#)
- [Cash Management](#)
- [Default Prevention](#)
- [DHS-SAVE, Eligible Noncitizen](#)
- [Foreign Schools](#)
- [Loan Servicing and Collection](#)
- [HEAL Program](#)
- [MSURSD Catalog Reference Documents](#)
- [Cybersecurity Compliance](#)

# Data Security



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IFAP

## FSA Cybersecurity Compliance



Federal Student Aid recognizes the importance of strong data security. Federal Student Aid has consolidated its cybersecurity compliance information and resources on this page. The data is organized into key topical areas below and other useful links to the right. Each time we update this page, a notice will appear in "What's New."

### Regulations

Below are the links for the data security and privacy mandatory requirements.

- [GLBA Safeguards Rule](#)
- [Identity Theft Red Flags Rule](#)
- [FERPA](#)
- [State Privacy Laws \(48+ states\)](#)
- [International Laws \(if global\)](#)

### Documents

Below are the ED references and guidelines for cybersecurity

- [SAIG Agreement](#)
- [PP Requirements \(PPA\)](#)
- [FSA Handbook](#)
- [GEN 15-18](#)
- [GEN 16-12](#)

### Tools

Below are three tools to assist in cybersecurity compliance.

- [CAT Tool \(risk/cybermaturity\)](#)
- [IHE Compliance Framework \(IHECF\)](#)
- [NIST 800-171](#)
- [How to use the IHECF](#)

### FY18 Audit Language

Click below to find the draft language for the upcoming FY18 audits to ensure schools are securing student information

### Draft language

### Report a breach!

[Click here](#)

Please include the following points:

- Date of breach (suspected or known)
- Impact of breach (# of records, etc.)
- Method of breach (hack, accidental disclosure, etc.)
- Information Security Program Point of Contact - Email and phone details
- Remediation Status (complete, in process - with detail)
- Next steps (as needed)

### Alerts

- [Petty](#)

### Contact Information

- [EDSOC](#)
- [Senior Advisor - Cyber](#)

### Training and Conferences

- [SHEEO](#)
- [EDUCAUSE](#)
- [FSA Conference](#)
  - International
  - Domestic
- [Webinar - 9/27/17](#)

### Related Links

- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [FTC Business Center - Privacy and Security](#)
- [US Computer Emergency Readiness Team \(US-CERT\)](#)

Consolidated  
Rules, Tools,  
Audit  
Language &  
Guidance

Compliant  
Self-Report  
Option and  
Suggested  
Data Share

Cyber  
Alerts and  
Contact  
Info

Outreach,  
Training &  
Links

# Cybersecurity Resource: Frequently Asked Questions

- FSA's Cybersecurity Compliance provides a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) resource for schools to assist in safeguarding their systems and data
- The FAQs address issues and concerns that are relevant to all schools in protecting their data and in compliance with cybersecurity requirements
- FAQs can be found on the FSA Cybersecurity Compliance home page by selecting [Frequently Asked Questions](#) under the Related Links heading located at the bottom right of the page or directly at:  
<https://ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/attachments/CyberFAQ.pdf>

## Related Links

- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Privacy Technical Assistance Center](#)
- [FTC Business Center - Privacy and Security](#)
- [US Computer Emergency Readiness Team \(US-CERT\)](#)

The screenshot shows the homepage of studentprivacy.ed.gov. At the top left is the U.S. Department of Education seal. To its right is the title "Protecting Student Privacy" and the subtitle "U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION". Below the seal is a sub-subtitle: "A Service of the Privacy Technical Assistance Center and the Family Policy Compliance Office". On the right side of the header is a search bar with a magnifying glass icon. In the center of the page is a navigation bar with links: "RESOURCES • TRAINING • BROWSE BY AUDIENCE • FAQS", "ABOUT US • CONTACT", and a blue button labeled "FILE A COMPLAINT". A red oval highlights the "ABOUT US" and "CONTACT" links. Below this is a large graphic featuring three stylized icons: a lock, a smartphone, and a key card.

**Protecting Student Privacy**  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
A Service of the Privacy Technical Assistance Center and the Family Policy Compliance Office

Search

RESOURCES • TRAINING • BROWSE BY AUDIENCE • FAQS

ABOUT US • CONTACT

FILE A COMPLAINT

**Student Privacy 101:**  
STUDENT PRIVACY AT THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Contact number - 855-249-3072

# **Federal Student Aid Updates and Reminders**

# TEACH Grant Reconsideration

## 1/31/19 – Electronic Announcement

- TEACH Grant recipients whose grants converted to Direct Unsubsidized Loans can request reconsideration if met or are meeting four-year teaching requirement within eight-year service obligation period, but had grants converted to loans because did not comply with annual certification requirement
- Week of Feb. 4, 2019, emails were sent to individuals who were eligible to request TEACH Grant reconsideration
  - Emails sent from noreply@studentloans.gov
- More information at - [StudentAid.gov/teach-reconsideration](https://StudentAid.gov/teach-reconsideration)

# 2019-2020 College Financing Plan

## 1/16/19 – Electronic Announcement

- *Shopping Sheet renamed College Financing Plan*
- New College Financing Plan template is part of Beta Testing
  - Schools not required to use but if implemented, please provide comments to [shopingsheet@ed.gov](mailto:shopingsheet@ed.gov) no later than April 1, 2019
- 2020-2021 College Financing Plan to include additional data elements and a new responsive design and the ability to customize colors of the College Financing Plan to match those of your institution

# Payment Vehicle Account Program Pilot

## 10/17/18 – Federal Register

- Pilot will consist of implementers, voluntary schools and students intended to guide a student-focused electronic Payment Vehicle Account Program with direct connectivity, through integration with FSA's myStudentAid Super Portal Mobile App
- Vehicle Account Program is designed to:
  - Provide a no-fee Payment Vehicle Account to participating Customers
  - Streamline school processing of credit balances (TIV and other funds)
  - Continuously promote FSA to customers via myStudentAid Mobile App
- Pilot intended to run through December 2020

# Cohort Default Rates

- The Fiscal Year (**FY**) **2015** national federal student loan cohort default rate (CDR) decreased to **10.8 percent** from the FY 2014 national rate of 11.5 percent. The FY 2015 CDR represents the lowest national cohort default rate since the three-year rate was first released in 2012
  - Texas's CDR is 16.2%
- During the tracking period for the FY 2015 borrower cohort—from Oct. 1, 2014 to Sept. 30, 2017—more than 4.9 million borrowers entered repayment, and 531,653 of them, or 10.8 percent, defaulted on their loans. Those borrowers attended 6,155 postsecondary institutions across the nation
- Draft FY2016 CDRs were released in February 2019

# Third-Party “Debt Relief”

- The Department is aware of “debt relief companies” that charge borrowers large up-front or monthly fees for Federal student aid services offered by the Department and its student loan servicers for free. Such services include:
  - Consolidating federal student loans;
  - Changing repayment plans;
  - Resolving defaults;
  - Filing requests for borrower defense loan cancellation; and
  - Other benefits and services that students are entitled to receive at no charge.



# Federal Student Aid E- Training (FSA E-Training)

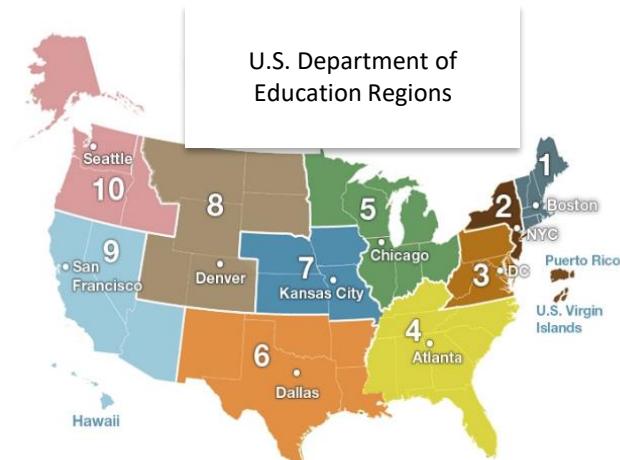
<https://fsatraining.info/> will change to  
<https://fsatraining.ed.gov> on April 16

Will temporarily re-direct



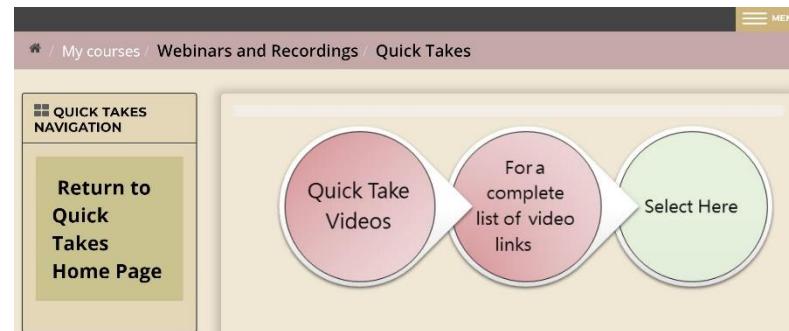
# FSA E-Training: Fundamentals of Federal Student Aid Administration

- FSA Coach Fundamentals, found in “Fundamentals Training Series on the FSA E-training Site (it replaces “Introduction to Federal Student Aid Online”)
  - FSA Coach Fundamentals must be successfully completed online on the FSA E-Training website to register for and attend the in-person workshop
    - FSA Coach Fundamentals can also be used as a standalone training tool for new FA staff
- In-person workshop
  - 5 day workshop offered at most of FSA’s Regional Training Facilities
  - Available dates found on FSA E-Training after completing “FSA Coach Fundamentals”
    - Click on “Fundamentals Training Series”
    - [Dear Colleague ANN-18-09](#)



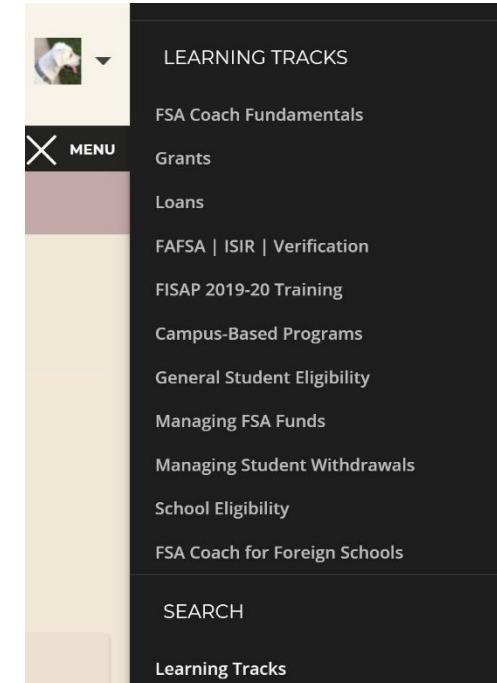
# FSA E- Training: Quick Takes

- Brief videos, 15-20 minutes in length, on a variety of Federal Student Aid topics such :
  - Conflicting Information
  - Professional Judgement
  - Defining a “year” in Federal Student Aid
  - Establishing Cost Of Attendance
  - Satisfactory Academic Progress
  - More than 20 topics available
- On the FSA E-Training Home page, select “Menu”, scroll down to “Webinars and Recordings” and select Quick Takes



# FSA E- Training: Learning Tracks

- Training is available in more detail on a variety of Federal Student Aid topics such as:
  - R2T4
  - Campus Safety and Security
  - Default Prevention
  - Several others
- Designed to take 60-90 minutes each
- On the FSA E-Training Home page, select “Menu”, scroll down to “Learning Tracks”, and select a topic or select “Search” and “Learning Tracks” after selecting “Menu”



# FSA E- Training: Record of Learning

- The FSA E-Training site will create a record of learning for each offering a learner completes
- Assists the learner in documenting what has been completed
- Helps supervisors monitor training programs

# 2019 Federal Student Aid Training Conference

We look forward to seeing you at the FSATC in Reno, NV  
Dec. 3 – Dec. 6, 2019 at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center

Watch IFAP for more information  
as the date approaches



# Training Feedback

To ensure quality training we ask all participants to please fill out an online session evaluation

- All registrants for this session will receive an email with a link to an electronic evaluation that we ask you to complete
- This feedback tool will provide a means to educate and inform areas for improvement and support an effective process for “listening” to our customers

# Additional Contact Information

[CODSupport@ed.gov](mailto:CODSupport@ed.gov); 800-848-0978

- Questions related to the Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System, the Campus-Based programs, or Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant, Pell Grant, TEACH Grant, and Direct Loan processing

[nslsds@ed.gov](mailto:nslsds@ed.gov); 800-999-8219

- Questions related to NSLDS functions such as student eligibility, overpayments, loan history, and enrollment reporting

[CPSSAIG@ed.gov](mailto:CPSSAIG@ed.gov); 800-330-5947

- Questions related to the Central Processing System (CPS), the Student Aid Internet Gateway (SAIG), FAA Access to CPS Online, and assistance with software products such as EDconnect and EDExpress

[edcaps.user@ed.gov](mailto:edcaps.user@ed.gov); 888-336-8930

- Questions related to G5, the Department of Education's electronic system for grants management and payments

# Ask A Fed goes online!

FSA has implemented a new resource to assist Financial Aid Administrators obtain guidance about the FSA programs. Based on the popularity and effectiveness of the Ask A Fed desk at the annual FSA Training Conference, we have instituted a similar process using email.

Please send your inquiries about  
Title IV regulations to [AskAFed@ed.gov](mailto:AskAFed@ed.gov)

The Ask A Fed email box is staffed every business day by a team of FSA Training Officers and they are ready to assist schools with their questions.

# Thank you NMASFAA!



# Questions?

